GOOD NEWS FOR HOMEMAKERS

Shirley W. Walton
Extension Agent
PEWTER REDISCOVERED FOR '76

Gentle Care Maintains Luster

The Bicentennial concentration on America's heritage has stimulated a renewed interest in pewter. The warm lustrous glow of pewter is elegantly casual in any setting

Examples of Early American pewter are relatively scare. Colonial pewterers had to import tin, the basic ingredient, from England at a high tariff. Thus, old pieces were often traded in for newly cast items.

In Colonial days pewter was hand cast. This technique is still used but has been joined by spinning and stamping methods for greater versatility. With hand cast and finished pewter, each piece may not be exactly uniform. However, this gives a valued handcrafted look. Finishes include the dark shadings of antique, the soft sheen of satin or a bright gleam that resembles silver.

Though not a precious metal, pewter lends itself to all the design and use possibilities of silver, yet retains its own special beauty and is notably tarnish resistant. Plates, platters, bowls, mugs, goblets, pitchers, sugar and creamer sets, lamp bases, candleholders, vases and wall sconces are among the many items that are available in reproductions of famous patters or in modern designs.

The latest innovation is fine pewter flatware, usually in satin finish with stainless steel knife blades, fork tines and spoon bowls. Decorative pewter figurines have also become popular and often depict Colonial and American Revolution characters.

When selecting pewter flatware, look for good quality workmanship. Hold each piece in your hand. It should feel comfortable and well balanced. Some pewter is hollow handled and feels light. Others with a solid handle are much heavier.

Pewter is an alloy of several metals consisting mainly of tin. Smaller amounts of copper and antimony are used for strength and brilliance. Pewter will not develop worn spots with prolonged use, since it is a solid metal. As a soft metal, however, it could dent easily without proper care. It has a low melting point and should be kept away from extreme heat, flames and heating elements.

Mention should be made of the pewter look-alikes. These are non-pewter alloys that have the look and feel of antique pewter. The characteristics are strength and durability, safe for freezer to oven to table use.

When purchasing pewter, it is important to check manufacturer's labels and tags for care information. This is especially true for flature. Coupled with its "new" elegance and the variety of designs available, most pewter flatware is dishwasher-safe.

Other pieces should be washed by hand in warm sudsy water. Rinsing in hot water and drying immediately with a soft towel will help prevent water-spotting. One manufacturer recommends using a plastic scouring pad on stains and scratches.

It is wise to wash food and beverage service pieces promptly after use. As with silver, certain chemicals and acids present in many foods may cause stains and pitting if in long contact with pewter. Common culprits include party dips, eggs, salad dressings, oils, vinegar, salt and fruit juices. Acids such as those of a lactic variety found in cheese, may also start corrosive action.

Pewter polish may be used occasionally to restore original scheen. Either pewter or silver polish will renew bright-finish pewter. Read and follow directions. Some pewter and simulated pewter has a protective finish and should not be polished. Suds and water is the A to Z easy care methods for these items. Also like silver, pewter in frequent use will develop tiny scratches that blend into a patina.

RECIPE OF THE WEEK

Peanut Blossoms

1 cup white sugar
1 cup brown sugar, packed
1 cup butter
1 cup chunky peanut butter, or plain
2 eggs
¼ cup milk
2 teaspoon vanilla
3½ cups sifted flour
2 teaspoons baking soda
1 teaspoon salt
Chocolate candy kisses or chocolate bits for top

Cream sugars, butter and peanut butter together. Beat in eggs, milk and vanilla. Sift flour, soda and salt together and stir into cookie batter. Chill thoroughly for best results. Shape into balls the side of a walnut and roll them in additional sugar. Bake on ungreased cookie sheet at 375 degrees for 10 to 12 minutes. Press chocolate kiss in center of each cookie while still hot, or use 2 or 3 chocolate bits to make a "blossom."

Highway Safety Division Stresses "Holiday Safe Driving"

RICHMOND - Holidays usually mean hazardous driving and this year's Christmas holiday period is no exception.

"Holidays intensify many bad driving habits that exist throughout the year," reported John T. Hanna, director, Highway Safety Division of Virginia. "Holiday parties mean more motorists will be driving under the influence of alcohol. Long trips, especially over short holidays such as this Christmas holiday, mean more drivers will be fatigues behind the wheel. In haste to get to holiday destinations many motorists may sacrifice their normal caution and courtesy."

Hanna added, however, that drivers could reduce the estimated Christmas traffic toll by preparing for holiday hazards and driving defensively.

"For example, we know that about half of all fatal traffic accidents are alcohol related," the safety official said, "and motorists who plan to drink over the holiday should also plan to limit their alcohol intake so their driving skills won't be impaired. It takes about an hour for the alcohol contained in an average drink to be eliminated from the body, so it's a good rule of thumb to wait an hour for every drink before driving."

Hanna said motorists could minimize fatigue and ease the hectic pace of holiday driving through careful pre-trip planning - estimating travel times and setting departure times early enough to allow for leisurely, relaxed driving.

"The safety of our highways over the Christmas holiday depends to a great extent on the amount of concern motorists show behind the wheel," Hanna cautioned. "For everyone's sake this Christmas," he added, "we hope drivers will take time to be safe."

AGELSS WONDERS TO PERFORM AT LIBERTY

The Agelss Wonders, a performing group of retired persons will present a program of Christmas entertainment at Liberty Baptist Church on Friday evening, Dec. 12 at 7:30 in the fellowship hall.

Area residents are invited to join in this hour of delightful entertainment. The sanctuary choir of Liberty is hosting the program.

CVCC To Offer Courses On Aging

Two courses on aging are announced by Central Virginia Community College for the winter quarter. They will be offered under the Office of Continuing Adult Education and Community Services. One course will be a training course -Care of the Older Adult. It will deal with the proper care and techniques to effectively interpret and deal with the social, psychological and physiological needs and desires of older adults. It will focus upon everyday care of the elderly, various health care techniques, crisis prevention methods, why aides should attempt to understand and meet the needs of older adults, and most importantly why those who care for older persons should show warmth, care, and love. Nursing home aides, home health aides, volunteers, and family members who are engaged in the care of their loved ones should consider enrolling. There will be field trips included. A certificate of completion will be awarded as well as 3 CEU's (Continuing Education Units). The class will meet for ten Thursdays from January 8 through March 11 in Room 301A from 7:00 until 9:00 p.m. and the fee will be $20.

The second course will be for credit and will be an Introductin to Gerontology. It will trace the historic, legal, and policy aspects of services to the elderly, will consider the economic, physiological, and psychological adjustments of older persons as well as a consideration of such problems as transportation, communication and social activities. Also to be considered are the process of aging, the ways people become old, and the substantive character of the aged. In addition, the class will be examining the nature of the problems, both personal and social, that results in the presence of the aged in our society. It is hoped that many false stereotypes associated with older people in the United States can be seen in a new way when examined in thelight of modern science. This course will meet on ten Tuesdays from 7:00 until 9:40 p.m., January 6 through March 9 in Room 201B

For the course Care of the Older Adult persons may register by mail, or by coming to the Office of Continuing Adult Education. For the credit course, Introduction to Gerontology, students must register through the regular procedures of the college. Advance registration is already in progress at CVCC. New and unclassified students can register from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., December 1 through 5:00 p.m., December5. Regular registration is December 17 and 18.

All new students must submit an application for admission to the College along with a $5 application fee before they can register for any course(s). This fee is paid only once and is not refundable unless the course requested is not offered. Any questions about further information about these two courses should be directed to the Office of Continuing Adult Education by calling 239-0321, ext. 210 or 212.

Mrs. Winniefred L. Schumacher, Coordinator
Educational Resources for the Senior Adult Office of Continuing Adult Education & Community Services

Evergreen

The Evergreen Community Senior Citizens enjoyed a Christmas dinner party in the social hall of the Evergreen Baptist Church. This is an annual event sponsored by several couples from the Evergreen United Methodist and the Evergreen Baptist Churches.

Mrs. Edmond Terry entered the University of Virginia Hospital Monday for treatment.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Bane and Charlotte have moved into their new home on Route 1.

Mr. and Mrs. Enid Clapp of Richmond were visiting Mrs. Ruth Clapp this week end.

The Evergreen Baptist Sunday School teachers Bible Study will meet this Friday, 7 p.m. in the home of Mrs. Clara Garrett and Mrs. Alice Jackson.

The Bethany Home Demonstration Club Christmas Tableon was held Monday, Dec. 8, in the home of Mrs. Doris Fleshman.

The Evergreen United Methodist Women will meet Fri., Dec. 12, at 7:30 p.m. in the home of Mrs. June Taylor for their Christmas meeting.

The Pamplin Charge United Methodist Bible Study will meet at the Evergreen United Methodist Church at 7 p.m. Sun., Dec. 14.

The Pamplin Charge U.M.Y., Y. Sub-District will meet at Mt. Pleasant United Methodist Church in Prince Edward County Sun., Dec. 14 at 7:30 p.m.

The Evergreen United Methodist Church Administrative Board will meet Tues., Dec. 16, at 7:30 p.m. at the church.

Mrs. Christine Cralle who is recovering from a broken arm is spending some time in Richmond with Mr. and Mrs. Dan Clapp.

Mrs. Ora Baker is recovering from a broken leg received in a fall at her home last week.

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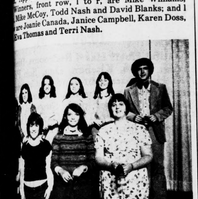
...ON WINNERS in the 1975 4-H Share-The-Fun ...e Division, are shown above: back row, left to ...right, are Vicki Glover, Susan Parris, Pam Ford, ...er.

...TERRI NASH ...THE

...y of Sharing the ...st Wednesday ...SS Auditorium ...d Terri Nash, ...s, and Mrs. L. E. ...ed top winners ...Share-The-Fun ...ers received a ...State 4-H ...ded by the ...tion of Electric ...hile Terri was ...holarship to ...4-H Camp ...e Appomattox ...Women ...ning Senior

MRS. FLORENCE HIX, Appomattox Farm Bureau Women's Committee, is shown above presenting 4-H Camp Scholarship Award - Terri Nash, winner in the 1975 Share-The-Fun Contest, Junior Division.



...ON WINNERS in the 1975 4-H Share-The-Fun ...e Division, are shown presenting Award Scholarship to State 4-H Congress to Tamara Nash, winner in the 1975 Share-Tae-Fun Contest, Senior Division.

LAWRENCE CLEMENTS, Central Virginia Electric Cooperative, is shown presenting Award Scholarship to State 4-H Congress to Tamara Nash, winner in the 1975 Share-Tae-Fun Contest, Senior Division.

...well, Kenny Shorter, Tony Ferguson, Susan Shorter, Terry Walton, Sharon White, Lisa Moore, Rhonda Nash.

In addition to the top winners above, the following senior acts received blue ribbons: Vicki Glover who performed a ventriloquist act with her puppet "Sidney"; Pam Ford and Susan Parris who performed a skit entitled "Wake Up"; Freddy Mitchell who sang "Daisy Jane and "Games People Play" while accompanied by Faith Vaughn; Cheryl Adams who played a "Medley of Love Songs" on the piano; Rita Ferguson, Robbie Carter, and Rhonda Nash who sang "One Tin Soldier", and Polly Carter who performed "Calypso" on the piano.

Other blue ribbon acts in the Junior Division were as follows: Mike McCoy who played and sang "Christ is Alive" on the piano; James Beaty, Mike Williams, Joanie Canada, and Karen Doss' featured as "The Bandstand Brats" and performing a song and dance routine while accompanied by Mrs. Joyce Vaughan; Janice Campbell who performed a tap dance to "The Entertainer"; and Todd Nash, David Blanks and Eve Thomas who performed an original skit entitled "The Bicentennial Lie."

Acts receiving red awards include: Jill Franklin, Shawn Harvey, and Jane Guill who performed a song and baton number to "King Fu Fighting"; Angie Murray who sang "He's Got the Whole World"; and Cis Morris and Mark Kelso who performed a skit entitled "Fishing"; Scott Drinkard who played "The Boogie Woogie" on the piano; Patti Stratton, Donna Robinson, and Beverly Coleman who performed a dance routine to "The Entertainer"; Kristi Hyche and Kim Maxwell who performed a piano number and skit entitled the "Christmas Carnival"; and Chad Deavers and Rick Caldwell who performed the "Commercial Mimic."

Acts receiving white awards were: Malcolm Miller with a drum and vocal solo entitled "Darling"; Nancy Morris who played a piano solo entitled "You're a Good Man Charlie Brown"; Lori Wooten and Rhonda Jaggers who performed a comedy act called "The Banana"; Mike Seamster, Jim Hix, Richard Gavitt, and Doug Franklin who performed a skit called "The Happy Days"; and Jennifer Inge who played the piano and sang "Feeling Sorry for Me."

Awards were presented to all performers by Susan Short and Cheryl Walton who were dressed as Bicentennial Elves.

Mrs. Florence Hix, representing the Appomattox County Farm Bureau Women's Committee, presented the top award in the Junior Division, while Mr. Lawrence Clements representing Central Virginia Electric Cooperative, presented the top award in the senior group.

Serving as emcees for the program were Tamara Nash and Michael Hancock. Judges for the program were Mrs. Laura Roach, Miss Peggy Jordan, Mr. Sidney Clower, Mr. Kylor Reed, Mr. Russell Thomas, Mr. Gary Ballowe.

Of Interest To Veterans

Married veterans should include their spouses' income in considering whether they can take advantage of the GI loan, the Veterans Administration says. VA counts the wife's income in computing whether married veterans are qualified for GI loans, the Roanoke Veterans Administration Regional Office confirmed today.

VA said the policy is to consider full combined income of both the veteran and wife (or in the case of a woman veteran, the husband's income,), when the income of the veteran alone is not sufficient to qualify him or her for the amount of the loan sought.

The same standards applied to the income of the veteran are applied to that of the spouse. The type and duration of employment will determine if the income of either or both can be considered reliable for the relatively long term of loan repayments, VA said.

The VA regional office is expected to exercise judgment and discretion, based on facts in particular cases. No hard and fast rules apply.

The Veterans Administration has been successful in discouraging lender solicitation of statements from veterans of their wives regarding child bearing capability. Potential family growth is no logner considered in determining income for loan purposes.

Complete information on GI loans can be obtained at the VA regional office or from local veterans service organization

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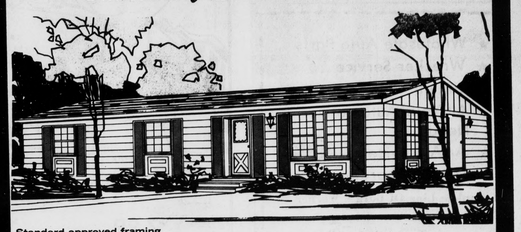

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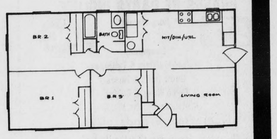

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